



**BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND
COMMUNITY BOARD #3**

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**Parks & Recreation and Environmental Committee
Public Hearing Report**

DATE: January 9, 2024

TIME: 7:00 PM

IN PERSON: No

VIRTUAL: Yes

SPEAKER: Yes

Committee Members Present

Frank Morano, *Chairman of the Board*

Al Klingele, *Chair*

Clifford Hagen

John Kiernan

Dianne Mattioli

Frank P. Morano

Anthony Riccardelli

Paul Sanders

Board Members Present

Jeff Geary

Staff

Charlene Wagner, *District Manager*

Stacey Wertheim, *Community Coordinator*

Susan LaForgia, *Community Coordinator*

Guests

Colleen Siuzdak, Administration Coordinator, DPR Borough of Staten Island

Sherry Diamond, Rep., Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis

Denise Pacheco, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Reilly

Frank Rapacciuolo, Rep. Council Member Joseph Borelli

Lori DuBord, Asst. Dir. External Affairs, Office of Resilient Homes & Communities (RHC)

Pippa Brashear, Scape Landscape Architecture

Susan Conlon, Richmondtown-Clarke Avenue Civic Association

Catherine Watson, Information Assistant, Tottenville Library

Public Contact Session

None

Agenda

The **New York State Office of Resilient Homes & Communities (RHC)** and their partner **SCAPE Landscape Architecture** provided an update on the progress and anticipated completion schedule for the Living Breakwaters project. The \$107,000,000 project was designed to promote risk reduction along the South Shore of Staten Island through erosion prevention, wave energy attenuation, enhancement of ecosystems, and increased social resiliency. Information was also provided on the upcoming **Shoreline Restoration** component, slated to begin in January 2024 and run through April 2024. This project component includes the one-time placement of sand between Loretto Street and Manhattan Street to create a more expansive beach and increase the distance between the toe of the existing dune and the shoreline. Details on construction activities and the upcoming schedule will be provided.

Discussion

- Q-What is the effect on the annual migration of horseshoe crabs? Very few adult crabs have been observed.
A-Monitoring was done during construction, and they worked closely with the regulators to avoid habitat seasons. There were no real concerns raised regarding the horseshoe crab mating. The sand placement cannot occur between April 15th and the fall to avoid the horseshoe crab mating season. The permit requires physical and environmental monitoring by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Upon completion, RHC hands the project over to NYS DEC.
- Q-There will be 35 trucks/day delivering sand to the beach between Manhattan and Loretto Streets. There are several schools in the vicinity; is this the best option for sand delivery?
A- Yes. Using a barge was not an option.
- Q-Is the project on budget?
A-Yes.

**Full presentation on file in the Community Board office.*

If you're interested in being added to their distribution list to receive monthly construction updates, please send an email to tami@scapestudio.com

If you have any questions about the ongoing construction and shoreline restoration work, please send an email to LivingBreakwaters@hcr.ny.gov

Parks Announcements

- Qualifying tests for lifeguards for the summer of 2024 are on January 20th at Curtis H.S. Applicants must be 16 years or older when the position begins.
- The Let's Green NYC volunteer initiative always looks for new groups to work with. For more information, visit <https://www.nycgovparks.org/opportunities/volunteer>

- Construction on Owl Hollow Soccer Field Comfort Station began last month. It is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2025.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert Klingele". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Albert W. Klingele
Chairman, Parks & Recreation and Environmental Committee